Statement

State-wise details of funds under Development of Forest villages

Sl. No.	State	Total No. of forest villages	Total No. of forest villages supported	Total fund released so far (Rs. In lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Assam	499	475	5876.42
2	Chhattisgarh	425	422	9554.37
3	Gujarat	199	199	4007.00
4	Jharkhand	24	24	303.58
5	Meghalaya	23	23	390.71
6	Madhya Pradesh	893	867	19492.07
7	Mizoram	85	85	1710.00
8	Orissa	20	20	290.60
9	Tripura	62	62	930.00
10	Uttarakhand*	61	41	566.96
11	UP	13	0	0.00
12	West Bengal	170	170	2803.00
	TOTAL	2474	2388	45924.71

*Forest Habitations

FICCI recommendations for road projects

*219. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether with road development projects in the country running into time and cost overruns in most places, industry experts have called for the formation of an independent regulatory authority to govern the sector;

(b) whether the report released by FICCI indicates delays in road projects due to issues of land acquisition, law and order, obtaining clearances and removing encroachments;

(c) if so, the main recommendations made in its report; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to implement the suggestions made to develop roads in India?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) According to Press release by FICCI, delays in road projects have been due to issues of land acquisitions, law and order, obtaining clearances and removing encroachments. FICCI has suggested establishment of an independent regulatory authority.

(c) FICCI has made the following recommendations:

(i) Establishment of an Independent regulator coupled with efficient arbitration mechanism which would help resolve issues at a faster pace.

(ii) Project superintendent by vested with adequate prowers to resolve issues at ground level.

(iii) Project awarding authorities to stick to original design and that all deliberations related to technical matters and traffic projections take place before the project begins.

(iv) Taking necessary steps to have supply of employable manpower on a continuous basis including long term measures like upgradation of ITIs and training institutes promoted by Corporate Houses and short ferm measures like increasing the retirement age of the employees of the Industry.

(v) The State Government needs to play pro-active role in sorting the issues regarding land acquisition, rehabilitation, etc. and improvement of coordination of NHAI and State Governments.

(vi) Increase of viability Gap Funding upto 70% in certain projects which otherwise seem to be unviable for the Public Private Partnership.

(d) The Government has already taken the following steps to expedite the progress of the National Highways projects:—

(i) Appointment of Senior State Government Officers as Nodal Officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the National Highway Development Project (NHDP) such as Land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest/pollution/ environment clearances.

(ii) A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted under the Cabinet Secretary to address inter-ministerial and Centre State issues such as land acquisition, utility shifting, environment approvals, clearance of road over bridge (ROB).

(iii) The procedure for issue of Land Acquisition notification has now been simplified.

(iv) To expedite the construction of ROBs an officer of the Railways has been posted to the NHAI to coordinate with the Ministry of Railways. Memorandum of Understanding has also been signed with M/s. IRCON for construction of some of the ROBs.

(v) Action has been taken against the non-performing contractors and they are not allowed to bid for future projects unless they improve the performance in the existing contracts.

(vi) To improve the cash flow problems of the Contractors.

ANTI-spam law

*220. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 80 per cent of all e-mail origination in India is spam;